

[En Español](#)

APPLYING FOR A PT OR PTA LICENSE

[Take the Applicant Law Exam Now](#)

[Apply for a PT License Online Now](#)

[Apply for a PTA License Online Now](#)

[Register for the NPTE Now](#)

The application form itself can be completed online by most applicants. To avoid delay and inconvenience, contact the Board before you apply if you fit into one of the 5 categories below.

- You are a "re-examination" applicant, meaning you have previously taken but not passed the national licensure exam.
- You are a foreign-trained applicant with a professional entry-level degree from an institution outside the U.S. or its territories. [Click here for information for foreign-trained applicants](#)
- You require ADA testing accommodations on the national exam. [Click here for the procedures and forms for requesting a testing accommodation.](#)
- You are a physical therapy applicant who has registered to take, but has not yet taken, the national licensure exam for the first time in a state other than Texas.
- To get a license, you must apply for [Licensure by Exam](#) or [Licensure by Endorsement](#) . If you

have NOT passed the national exam, apply for Licensure by Exam. If you are CURRENTLY LICENSED in another state, apply for Licensure by Endorsement.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS:

- We Cannot Refund Application Fees. Please make sure you meet the eligibility requirements before you apply.
 - Change of Address. If you move during the application process, email or fax your new address immediately. Wrong addresses can delay your licensure.
 - Expedited Delivery of Your License. Your license will be mailed to you. If you need your license as quickly as possible, contact the Licensing Department for information about using an overnight service.
 - Setting a Date to Start Work. Although it takes us a very short time to issue a license once we have received all of the required items, there is no way to tell when you will hold your license in your hand. Keep this in mind when you are discussing your start date with an employer.
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ENDORSEMENT APPLICANTS ONLY - REQUIRED ITEMS

1. Application and non-refundable fee

**According to state law, you must provide your social security number (SSN) to obtain a license; or alternatively, if you do not have a SSN, you must submit an affidavit stating that you do not have one. Until your application includes a SSN or an [SSN affidavit](#), your application cannot be processed.

2. Applicant photograph - a recent, passport-type photo on standard photographic paper, with the printed name, SSN and signature of the applicant on the reverse in dark ink.

Photographs must be mailed to the Board Office at 333 Guadalupe, Suite 2-510, Austin, Texas, 78701

. Computer printed photos are not acceptable and will delay the processing of your application.

3. Proof of graduation (*US graduates only*) - a photocopy of your diploma, or an official "completion letter" from your PT/PTA program stating that you completed the program. The completion letter must be an original and include your SSN. It must also include the school seal and be signed by the school registrar, the program director, or other authorized school official, and must be mailed by the school directly to the Board at the above address.

4. Official transcript from your CAPTE-accredited entry-level professional program (*US graduates only*) - mailed directly to the Board by the school.

***If your degree in Physical Therapy is from an institution outside the US or its territories, make sure you read the information for foreign-trained applicants before you apply. Education documentation requirements are different for foreign-trained applicants. CAPTE-accreditation of a foreign program does not eliminate this requirement. Also, please note that not all DPT programs are entry-level; only entry-level programs meet this requirement.*

5. Verification of Licensure - from all states in which you have ever held a PT or PTA license. At least one of those verifications must show current active licensure. All verifications must be sent directly to the Board by the state board issuing the license. The verification information must include type of license (PT or PTA); issuance and expiration dates; license number; and indication of any disciplinary action taken, with official documentation.

6. National exam score report from the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Score Transfer Service sent directly to the Board.

[Request a score transfer online from the FSBPT](#)

or contact them at 703-739-9420.

7. Applicant Jurisprudence Exam – an online, open book exam based on the Texas PT Rules and the Practice Act. You may refer to the Rules and Act while taking the exam.

EXAM APPLICANTS ONLY - REQUIRED ITEMS

1. Application and non-refundable fee

***According to state law, you must provide your social security number (SSN) to obtain a license; or alternatively, if you do not have a SSN, you must submit an affidavit stating that you do not have one. Until your application includes a SSN or an SSN affidavit, your application cannot be processed.*

2. Applicant photograph - a recent, passport-type photo on standard photographic paper, with the printed name, SSN and signature of the applicant on the reverse in dark ink. Photographs must be mailed to the Board at 333 Guadalupe, Suite 2-510, Austin, Texas, 78701. Computer printed photos are not acceptable and will delay the processing of your application.

3. Proof of graduation - (*US graduates only*) a photocopy of your diploma, or an official "completion letter" from your PT/PTA program stating that you completed the program. The completion letter must be an original and include your SSN. It must also include the school seal and be signed by the school registrar, the program director, or other authorized school official, and must be mailed by the school directly to the Board at the above address.

4. Official transcript from your CAPTE-accredited entry-level professional program - mailed directly to the Board by the school.

(*US graduates only*)

***If your degree in Physical Therapy is from an institution outside the US or its territories, make sure you read the information for foreign-trained applicants before you apply. Education documentation requirements are different for foreign-trained applicants. CAPTE-accreditation of a foreign program does not eliminate this requirement.*

5. National exam score report from the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) - after you have completed the online licensure application, register for the national exam. Your score will be reported to the state you select.

6. Applicant Jurisprudence Exam – an online, open book exam based on the Texas PT Rules and the Practice Act. You may refer to the Rules and Act while taking the exam.

GETTING A LICENSE BY EXAM - Step by Step

1, 2, 3. You may submit the application and fee, take the jurisprudence exam, and register and pay the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) for the national PT or PTA exam in any order.

4. When you have met the license application requirements, the Board will contact the Federation and approve your registration. If you are requesting testing accommodations, you must do so BEFORE the Board approves your registration.

5. You will receive notification from the FSBPT that you may schedule the exam after you have registered AND your registration has been approved by the Board.

6. At that time, you will be free to schedule the exam at a Prometric computer testing center. You will have a 60-day window in which to take the exam. A separate fee, payable to the testing center, is required when you schedule the exam. The Federation and Prometric should have the exact fee amount listed.

7. Once you have taken the exam, the score will be reported to the Board.

8. Once you pass the exam, the Board will issue and mail your license.

FAILING THE EXAM AND REEXAMINATION

- If you fail the exam, the Board will notify you by mail.
- If you have a Temporary License, you must return it to the Board. You may not practice again until you pass the exam.
- To take the exam again, you must submit a reexamination application and fee
- If you fail the exam twice or more, you must complete additional work before taking

the exam again. The requirements for exam eligibility after the second failure are described in §329.2 of the Board's rules.

- You may only take the exam three times in one calendar year.
- The Board does not maintain or provide information about exam review courses.

We suggest you use the internet or contact your PT or PTA program for assistance in finding a review course.